

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1190

By Watson

A RESOLUTION to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of Hospital Corporation of America and to recognize the company's contributions to the citizens of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this body should recognize those exemplary medical institutions and their remarkable personnel who, through their unwavering commitment to excellence, are credits to this State; and

WHEREAS, one such notable institution is Hospital Corporation of America (HCA), which has provided quality healthcare to the citizens of Tennessee since 1968; and

WHEREAS, forty years ago, with the purchase of a single hospital, three Tennesseans established HCA and a new model of healthcare delivery. Their vision consisted of building a system of hospitals in highly concentrated urban areas, emphasizing innovation, quality, business operations, and maximizing value for all stakeholders including the local communities they served; and

WHEREAS, as core principles of this new company, founders Thomas F. Frist, Sr., MD, Jack C. Massey, and Thomas F. Frist, Jr., MD, pledged to always put patients first and treat those served with compassion and kindness; and

WHEREAS, from its humble beginnings, the company has grown to become one of the nation's leading healthcare providers. Employing 189,000 individuals worldwide, and with \$27 billion in 2007 revenues, HCA's system of facilities now consists of 169 hospitals and 109 surgery centers in nineteen states and London, England; and

WHEREAS, within Tennessee, the company operates five surgery centers and thirteen hospitals with approximately 2,300 beds, and is by far the leader of Tennessee's healthcare industry; and

WHEREAS, headquartered in Nashville, HCA employed 12,290 people in Tennessee in 2006 with payroll totaling more than \$1 billion. Additionally, nationwide HCA provides more than \$1.3 billion in charity care and another \$1.16 billion in discounts to the uninsured, and provided over \$29 million in charity care in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, HCA's reach within Tennessee's healthcare industry is remarkable. Hundreds of companies have been spun-off from the company or were founded by former HCA employees; in addition to the significant role HCA plays in the delivery of healthcare in Tennessee and the country, it is one of the nation's largest employers; and

WHEREAS, several factors affect HCA's ability to compete within Tennessee's local communities, including quality, the ability to attract and retain clinicians, skilled personnel, breadth of services, technology, and pricing; and

WHEREAS, because people in need of healthcare services are HCA's primary customers, the role the company has played in Tennessee is unique. As a result of the values instilled in the employees by its founding fathers and the company's current leadership, HCA remains committed to delivering the highest quality care and continues to invest in people, facilities, technology, and information systems; and

WHEREAS, indeed, the company's mantra is to provide safe, effective, efficient, compassionate and satisfying patient care; and

WHEREAS, serving communities is at the core of HCA's values. In 1998, The HCA Foundation was established to provide funding grants to non-profit organizations, particularly those based in Middle Tennessee. To be eligible for funding, organizations must promote health and well being, work to encourage the positive growth and development of children and youth, or provide unique community outreach and educational programs that serve children and adults within the community, and since its inception, The HCA Foundation has contributed more than \$119 million to non-profit organizations; and

WHEREAS, to help HCA-affiliated employees during times of extreme financial hardship, HCA established The HCA Hope Fund, a non-profit public charity which is funded in part by HCA employees. Established in 2005 following Hurricane Katrina, The HCA Hope Fund has helped over 5,550 members of the HCA family; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is privileged to recognize Hospital Corporation of America for its countless contributions to the well-being of the citizens of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that that we hereby honor and commend the medical professionals, administrators, and staff of Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) on the occasion of its fortieth anniversary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we recognize and celebrate the contributions of HCA, both economically and philanthropically, to the people of Tennessee and extend to them our best wishes for much continued success in providing exceptional health care to the good people of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.